THE GENESEE FARMER.

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THE FARMER.

SATURDAY, MAY 18, 1833.

VARIOUS SORTS OF CHEESE.

ABSTRACT.

Dunlop or Scotch Cheese, is not so uniform in taste and flavor as some of the English, but generally as fat as either the Gloucester or Cheshire. Part of it is too soft and rather insipid in taste, but much is solid, firm and sound. It is close in its texture like soap, and neither hard nor open in its pores, without fissures or cracks. At great age, which it seldom attains, it becomes stronger in the taste, and acquires a fine rich flavor.

Cheshire Cheese is of a dry loose texture, with many small open pores; has an austere flavor, and a rough sharp taste, but is remarkably uniform, and free from cracks and fissures. But it is not so fat as the Gloucester or Dunlop. The harshness of taste and strong flavor proceed from setting the curd too warm,—employing three people to break, or rather churn the curd, for about forty minutes before any of the whey is drawn off,—thrusting or bruising the dried curd, by three or four people, for two or three hours before it is put into the press,—and screwing the cheese for some hours after it is under pressure. The poverty of the Cheshire cheese must proceed from treatment. Owing to the milk being coagulated too hot, and the violent breaking and thrusting of the curd, a large portion of the butteraceous matter comes off with the whey.

Gloucester Cheese is close in the texture like wax, and far milder and richer in taste than the Cheshire. This must proceed from the milk being coagulated at a more proper temperature, and less injured in the curd.

Stilton Cheese is made from the cream of two meals of milk, with the skim milk of one of these meals removed; and of course it contains a double portion of fat to that of other cheese. The curd of this cheese is not much broken, but the whey is removed gently. Some of these cheeses are formed in a net, and they are generally kept till two or three years old. They are rich and mild in taste.

Parmesan Cheese is made of one meal of milk that has stood sixteen hours, and another meal that has stood about eight hours. The cream is taken from both, and the milk is heated over a slow fire for an hour, and often stirred, till it comes to eighty-two degrees of heat, when the rennet is applied, and the curd is generally formed in about an hour after. The curd is much broken, and again heated, with the whey, to near a boiling heat, and some saffron added to color. In an hour it is taken off, three fourths of the whey removed, and as much cold water put in as enables the cheese maker to handle the curd; a cloth is next put round the curd, and after being dried a little, it is put into a hoop, and laid on a shelf two days. It is then sprinkled with salt for thirty days in summer and forty days in winter, then laid upon another. They are scraped every day afterwards, and rubbed with linseed oil, to prevent injury from insects.—*See Aiton's treatise on dairy husbandry,—p.* 160, *&c.*

THE FOOT-ROT

Has been very destructive to our flocks. The following mode of treatment is from the transactions of the Highland Society, and from a lengthy paper upon this subject by the Rev. S. Riddle, who says it can be "confidently recommended, having been found by experience to be perfectly effectual."

"The sheep affected with foot-rot, should be assorted in an open field, if the weather be dry; in a house or shed perfectly clean and spread with straw, if it be wet. A dry day should be chosen for the purpose if possible, and the house should be divided by a partition, one apartment being for the sheep that have undergone treatment. There should be two sorters, a third person to hold the medicine, and a fourth to take away the sorted animal and bring another. The sheep is laid on its back, either on a smearing stool or on the floor, and examined; the feet are carefully washed, pared, cleaned and dressed with the following solution:

Corrosive sublimate, ½ of an ounce.
Sulphate of copper, two ounces.
Verdigris, one ounce and a half.
Alum, two ounces.
White copperas (sulphate of zinc) half an ounce.
Muriatic acid, two ounces.
Charcoal, three fourths of an ounce.

Pound as small as possible, mix in half a bottle of the best distilled vinegar, and apply externally.

In all severe cases, and especially when the disease is the result of constitutional affection, two ounces of glauber salts, dissolved in half a mutchen of water, should be given internally.

The sheep ought to remain in the house about four hours after having undergone medical treatment, and they ought to be let out by as clean a path as possible. After five days those which have not been cured by the application should be taken in again. Some cases may occur in which the remedy must be repeated several times; but if the cleaning and paring are judiciously performed, and the solution properly applied, eight or twelve days at most are sufficient for the cure."

VERNAL FLOWERS.

[In a letter to the Editors, dated May 8.]

Since my last, many other varieties of the *tulip* and *hyacinth*, and some of *Narcissus*, have burst into bloom, accompanied by the *Japan Quince*, the *crown imperial*, and several species of *Phlox*. Perhaps no finer flowers than some of these, can be found in any quarter of the globe.

The tulip is remarkable for its brilliant and varied hues, several very distinct and highly contrasted colors often marking the same petal. We have nothing that equals it in splendor. Some poet, probably less acquainted with flowers than with cobwebs, has said they were scentless; but this is a great mistake, for some of ours are very fragrant. A great disparity however, prevails among them in this respect, and possibly it is not less than the difference of their colors.

No increase in their brightness is obtained by planting them in a highly manured soil; but on the contrary, some of the most brilliant have sprung up in spots where they were neglected and even uncultivated. The design of a rich soil is to give them *taller* and *stronger* stems and *larger* flowers.

Another species (*Tulipa turcica ?*) with single yellow flowers, is elegant, though rather eclipsed by its unrivaled congener.

Narcissus, also a fine genus, comprises about sixty species; and all that I have seen are fragrant, but said to be deleterious to persons of weak nerves. However their beauty will secure them a place in the border.

Under this name (*Narcissus*,) are included both the Daffodils and Jonquils. The great double flowered daffodil (*N. Ajax*) has a mixture of greenish petals which diminish its beauty; but the single daffodil (*N. pseudo-narcissus*) is fine, as well as two of its double varieties, the orange phenix, and the sulphur phenix,—the latter is more particularly beautiful. The large Campernello jonquil (*N. calathinus*) and the smaller jonquil (*N. jonquilla*) are very pretty; and of the latter we have a double variety which is later. *N. biflorus* and *N. angustifolius*, are also delicate flowers.

The Japan Quince is the most splendid of all our shrubs. It is a *never green** (in winter), and produces its full red† flowers in profusion at a time when few other shrubs are in bloom. It is perfectly hardy, and should be in every ornamental garden.

I know of no plant that will bear a comparison with the Crown Imperial, in the singularity of its structure. It is truly magnificent. To have it in all its glory, it should be planted in a very fertile soil, and if possible, early in autumn, so that its fibrous roots which are extremely numerous, may have time enough before winter, fully to occupy the ground. It has run into many varieties. The *double red*, and the *double yellow*, are rather distorted, and not finer than the single varieties. The *Aurora*, and *sang de bœuf*, are very early; the *Pileus cardinalis* and *crown upon crown* are later; and the last on account of its double tier of leaves and flowers, is very showy.

Phlox is chiefly a North American genus; and one or more of the species, in succession, continue constantly to flower through more than half of the year. *P. reptans* is a little the earliest. The trailing stems root at the joints in the manner of the strawberry; and its full red flowers are presented in masses, though not so dense as those of *P. subulata* which literally covers the ground. I know of nothing finer than a large bed of these party-colored flowers. *P. divaricata* has great diversity of colors: some nearly pure *white*, some inclining to *red*, and some to *blue*; but after making selections from an extensive district, I have

*See Genesee Farmer Vol. I, page 35.

† A late writer says, "It is remarkable for the brilliancy of its blossoms, which vary [in different varieties from the richest scarlet to the most delicate blush color.

not found one of an unmixed red or blue. A border with these varieties mixed promiscuously together, makes a noble display. A gentleman said to me on coming out of the garden, "I have seen nothing that has more freshness and beauty than that bed of wild flowers," pointing to this species of Phlox.

SEED CORN.

Mr. Bradley has admonished me of the impropriety of mistaking *inference* for *demonstration*. I have said that tar was a preventive, when applied properly to seed corn, against the depredations of birds, squirrels and insects. I said so because I did not *know* that the wire-worm, or any other living thing, had seriously depredated upon my seed corn when thus prepared,—and because I *thought* it was alike offensive to all. But I confess that experience is better than theory. I must only conclude that the wire-worm is not among the enemies I have to combat.

J. BUEL.

NEW PLANTS.

Our respected friend, David Thomas, deplores the loss of his new ornamental plant, the *Eschscholtzia californica*, by the severity of the winter, or the want of due precaution. If he has been as fortunate as we have, in leaving undug the ground where this favorite grew, he may perceive his loss is not so serious as he expected; for where our plants stood, new ones, self-sown, are coming forth in abundance.

We have been agreeably disappointed in finding that another new plant, the *Mimulus moschatus* has been preserved to us in a similar way, notwithstanding our neglect in saving the seeds. This is a very diminutive plant, whose yellow flowers impart a very strong odor of musk.

A SINGULAR TREE.

There is growing in the garden of Gen. Van Schoonhoven, at Waterford, a butternut tree, worthy of notice, as a remarkable vegetable production. At two feet from the surface of the ground it throws off seven branches of six to twelve inches in diameter at the bifurcation, which extend twenty-five to thirty feet, in a direction nearly horizontal. Some of these require bolstering to keep them from the ground. At four feet from the ground, another division takes place equal to the first, which fill the interval between the opposite horizontal branches. The whole has the appearance of half a globe, flattened at its pole, sixty feet in diameter, and filled with branches and foliage from the base to the apex. It produced fifteen bushels of nuts in 1832, and promises a still larger crop the coming autumn.

VEGETABLES AND FRUITS

Were reported to be prejudicial, in diet, in Great Britain as well as in the United States, during the prevalence of the Cholera. The consequence was, that the market gardeners about London were nearly ruined, for the want of a sale for the products of their labor. A committee of the gardener's society wrote to thirty of the most eminent physicians in London, requesting their opinion as to the truth of the current report. Their respective answers, without any dissent, agree that the use of vegetables and fruit, is not only not injurious, but in connection with animal food, and eaten with moderation, is highly beneficial, and most conducive to the health and vigor of the body. These facts, which we copy from the Lon. Hor. Reg., and which are corroborated by our most eminent physicians, are worth remembering, cholera or no cholera.

A NEW SPECIES OF CLOVER

Has been recently introduced into British husbandry, from Italy, under the botanic name of *Trifolium incarnatum*, some of the seed of which is advertised at Albany. From the notice of it in the Horticultural Register, it promises to be a valuable acquisition, as affording very early green food in the spring. The common method, to sow wheat ground as soon as the crop is harvested, at the rate of eight pounds to the acre. It produces a large burthen, which comes to use at the commencement of the following May.—*See Hor. Reg., Jan.* 1833.

Pears on Quince and Thorn Stocks.

At the meeting of the London Horticultural Society in October, specimens of the Doyenne blanc pear, (here known as the Vergaleu) were exhibited, grown upon quince, thorn and mountain ash stocks. The maturity of those which are produced from the thorn is to be found greatly accelerated, while those of the mountain ash are retarded to a later period. Both quince and thorn stocks induce early and abundant bearing with most pears, and improve the texture of many of the beurre or buttery varieties. The quince, pear, mountain ash and thorn belong to the class *Icosandria*, order *Di-pentagynia*, and all to the natural order *Peneaceæ*. We have the pear growing on the quince and thorn. They fruit early, and upon the quince abundantly; but are short-lived.

B.

THE SEASON.

The winter months were uncommonly mild, the thermometer in no case exceeding four degrees below zero, with a fair proportion of snow, and no icy rains; and in fact since the general melting of the snow, there has been but very little rain for nearly sixty days up to the 12th inst; since which we have had one of the heavest falls of rain that this country has experienced for many years, and from the appearance of the Genesee River we anticipate extensive damages to bridges, mills, fences, &c.

The tenderest kinds of foreign grapes that were left uncovered, remained uninjured and came forward earlier than those that were protected. The Peach, Apricot, Nectarine, and the whole family of Plums have set fruit in the greatest profusion, and promise fair to return an immense yield. The Apple is also fairly set, and Pears from the smallest to the largest, have shown splended arrays of blossoms. Grapes are also fuller of clusters than we ever have noticed them during any year since their introduction. We counted to-day 510 clusters on a York claret vine not occupying two square yards on the trellis.

Crocuses, *Hyacinths* and *Tulips*, owing to the dry and hot weather, have not been as fine as common, their duration was shorter, and the stems and blossoms not as strong as usual. Tulips were in their prime about the 10th inst, which is nearly three weeks earlier than last year.

The *Curculio* appeared first on the 10th, and commenced trade on the apricots, which are now about the size of an almond, by making his Turkish sign-manual, the half moon incision. We have hopes that the great fall of rain may bother some of their tribe who have not yet emerged from the earth, and still retain the chrysalis form.

We last year buried several fallen and punctured fruits in a flower pot of earth, and placed a pane of glass over it, and by an extra heat during the autumn they were forced through all their stages, and came forth, armed and equipt as the law of nature directs, with *proboscis*, *antennæ*, cartridge box and bayonet; a part of them we turned over to Jackey Frost, who put a quietus to their inveterate habits of *carving*. In the second volume (pages 45, 53 and 62) of the Genesee Farmer, the whole story relating to these insidious marauders is told. There is no preventive against their depredations; jarring the trees often, and picking up and destroying the fallen fruit promises most. Smoking the trees and lights hung on them prove entirely useless. We have been told by a gentleman, who says he has practiced it successfully, that *dry house ashes*, thrown freely into the tree while the dew is on, will deter their operations! It is worth trying.

Strawberries have wintered well, and the stools look finely, with abundance of promise, and we look forward with much pleasure to the day when we can feast like the imperial Jove and his ox-eyed Juno on ambrosia and nectar; for they could have been nothing else but *strawberries and cream*.

The grain crops look so well that if nothing happens they will bring the farmer a fair return even at *combination prices*.

Grass is rather *measly*, and like a dandy's head, short cropped with here and there a tuft. The health of the country good, with an occasional little disposition to chill and ague fevers. The sun rises and sits, and all things go on nicely.

CATERPILLARS.

We learn from different parts of the country that the *tree caterpillar* is making extensive ravages among fruit and even forest trees. They are a great scourge, and where they prevail become one of the most troublesome insects that infest the fields, requiring considerable manual labor to destroy them, and at a period when the farmer is the least able to spare the time; but yet we hold it an imperious necessity that the whole community should commence a crusade against them, as each individual worm, after changing to the winged shape is capable of increasing their numbers an hundred fold. In those places where they have not become complete masters of the field, a little attention properly directed will entirely eradicate them.

They should be taken in hand in the morning, and while the nests or webbs are small and in the incipient stages. A swab of rags on the end of a pole dipt in fish oil of any kind, is effectual; or a circular brush, or a bundle of snagged twiggs may be made to twist and wind the whole concern about it, and so be brought down and destroyed; or what we have found the most effectual is, a strong decoction of tobacco, injected by any process into the nests; the other processes will destroy them, but this is *utter annihilation* without bail or main prize. One dollar's worth of the *poisonous weed*, will clean a whole township; even the *saliva* of that "*tobacco worm, man*," who is a

regular built chewer, with a *good squirt*, will do wonders, and slay his thousands like Samson of old, and with *the same weapon.* *

SPRING AT BUFFALO, &c.

Thus far the spring has been uncommonly mild and forward; yet we have had very little rain. But one small shower has fallen on us for several weeks. The ice all left Lake Erie about the 24th April. May 8th, our plum and cherry trees were in full bloom. The wheat and grass in the neighborhood look well, but want more rain. The honey bees began to work about the first of April. The flowers of the willow, alder, and poplar, were then out; and I have never seen them carry in greater burdens of bread on their thighs, than during many days in April. Mine have made a large quantity of comb this spring, and considerable honey. The young bees are coming out very rapidly. There have been several young dead drones brought out of the hives. This appears to be uncommonly early for that operation. From present prospects, this promises to be an uncommonly fine bee season. Our fruit trees were never fuller of bloom, and the weather so far has been uncommonly good for them.

Never before has there been such a crowd of emigration to "the great west," as during this spring. It seems as though the whole eastern country was pouring out its millions for Ohio and Michigan. Ever since the 25th of April, two large steamboats have left Buffalo daily for Cleveland and Detroit; and every boat, together with all the schooners, and there are several of them which leave here every day, are literally packed down and overrun with passengers, goods, chattels, wares and merchandise; so much so, that in some instances passengers have been *pushed ashore*, to prevent the boat from being overladen. Upwards of 600 passengers have been taken from the wharf in one boat this spring at Buffalo. What a country must there be at the west; and how fertile its soil; and how mild its climate, to invite such a rush of inhabitants into its bosom! And the Dutch, too! they are beginning to come up the Canal. It seems as if the whole country would be overrun with them. But they bring considerable money along, and buy out whole neighborhoods of farms. They are a queer race, however, and we might easily spare them for better folks. But so long as America seems destined to be the waste-wier, a grand receptacle of European overflow, we have little else to expect, but a motley emigration.

I often think, while standing on the wharf at Buffalo, and looking at one of our fine large schooners, which are "up for Chicago" every week, as the crew are stowing away the bales and boxes of merchandise; and as numerous families, with cheerful and happy faces, are getting on board, with their luggage, to emigrate into those far regions; of the time, when, eight and twenty years ago, while a little boy at school, in Old Massachusetts, with the American Preceptor in my hand, I used to read Andrew Ellicott's description of Niagara Falls, which it contained; (and an excellent description too it is;) and I then hoped that I should live long enough, and get rich enough, to some day or other go out into the wild wilderness and see those Falls! And I well recollect, with what thrilling interest I used to sit in my little chair by my parents, around the fire of a winter evening, and listen to the tales of wonder about the "Genesees," from those great travelers who had explored that distant country. And I well recollect, too, how all the neighborhood used to congregate about the house of a family who were "going to start" on their emigration to the "Genesee Country," or to the "Scioto." How their friends and relatives hung around them, and with tears and sighs of despair of ever seeing them again in this world, bid them adieu for ever. And here I am, a resident, standing on what was then almost the Ultima Thule of emigration, and witness families embark to go a thousand miles beyond us, into a new, yet partially settled country, with expectations of coming back again in three or four years at fartherest, to see their friends in Maine, seven or eight hundred miles east of us; and all the way by water!

What a marvellous country do we inhabit, and what a spirit of enterprise pervades our land! Why, surely, the Americans ought to be the happiest and most prosperous people in the world; and I truly believe they are. But to return to our emigration. I have this spring seen great numbers of good, substantial people from Ontario, Seneca, Livingston, and the central counties of Western New-York, who are emigrating to the west with their families,—more than I have ever known before. They say that they find no difficulty in selling their farms, and at good prices too. Does not this show a proud state of things for New-York? Why are her farms sought for with such avidity? Why are lands around the lakes and canals, and in the extreme western part of the state worth, when well cleared and improved, 20 to 35 dollars an acre; when, even in New-England, their best lands are hardly worth more? It is her immense internal improvements, and the great thoroughfares which have been opened through the rich interior, and by which she has been made the toll gate of the world, that has produced this result. Look at the immense tribute she annually receives from the other states. See the hundreds of thousands she accumulates from their travel and emigration; and what markets she thus provides for the surplus produce of our farmers. And how much is the value of her western lands increased by the cheapness of transportation on the canal! Our Canal Board did most wisely last winter, in lowering the price of tolls; and they will soon experience the fact, that low tolls will increase the receipts of her treasury; and that they ought to be farther reduced, down to the lowest constitutional limit; and even when at that rate, if the canal be not already choked up with boats, they ought to throw off all charges on the *tare* of goods, such as crates, boxes, casks, &c., with which they are encased, and only charge toll *on the weight of the naked article itself*. Then will our carrying trade be increased. Let the tolls be merely nominal—enough only to repair the canal and pay the interest on its debt—reduce the salt duty to 6 cents a bushel; afford it for the least possible price, and make three times the quantity now made—and then will be seen a state of things most gratifying: light burdens and full employment to our people. What is the paltry accumulation of a few thousands in our state treasury beyond its most simple wants, to a vast business, and employment, and prosperity, given our citizens at large? It is of the least possible importance in comparison with their ultimate and individual prosperity.

But I am straying from my subject. I began with the spring, and have ended with a homily on canal tolls and political economy. But to return: Our season has opened upon us most auspiciously. The farmer, the mechanic, and the merchant, seem alike equally favored. May it so continue; and may Heaven's choicest blessings cheer the husbandman on to his labors, and its richest bounties reward his toils. ULMUS.

EXPORTS.

From a statement recently published by the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, it appears that the value of the Exports, of the growth, produce, and manufacture of the United States, during the year commencing on the 1st day of October, 1831, and ending on the 30th day of September, 1832, was *Sixty-three millions, one hundred thirty-seven thousand, four hundred and seventy dollars.* The Exports consist of articles derived from—

I. THE SEA.

Dried and pickled fish, spermacetti, whale and other fish oil; whalebone and spermacetti candles,	$3,558,538

II. THE FOREST.

Skins and furs; ginseng; lumber and products of wood; tar, pitch, &c. and pot and pearl ashes,	1,317,794

III. AGRICULTURE.

Beef, tallow, hides, horned cattle,	774,087	
Butter and cheese,	290,820	
Pork, bacon, lard, live hogs,	1,928,196	
Horses and mules,	164,031	
Sheep	22,385	
Wheat,	93,500	
Flour,	4,880,623	
Indian corn,	278,740	
Indian meal,	480,035	
Rye meal	75,392	
Rye, oats, and other small grain and pulse,	78,447	
Biscuit or ship bread,	255,735	
Potatoes,	42,077	
Apples,	15,314	
Rice,	2,152,631	
Tobacco,	5,999,759	
Cotton,	31,724,682	
All other agricultural products—		
Flaxseed,	123,036	
Hops,	25,448	
Brown sugar,	11,232	
		19,416,173

IV. MANUFACTURES.

Manufactures of all kinds,	5,814,965
	$63,137,470

KNITTING MACHINE.

Niles' Register contains an account of a recently invented knitting machine. It is about one foot square, which only weighs ten pounds, and costs but five dollars. It is worked by turning a crank. One girl of 12 might tend three machines, if arranged to work together; each machine making from one to two pair of men's long woolen stockings per day.

CULTURE OF FLAX.

Having resided in this country a number of years, and frequently observed the manner of cultivating Flax—its coarseness of texture, length, &c, when compared with the flax of Germany or Ireland, I have thought a few observations of the culture as generally practiced by the most experienced flax growers of Ireland, would attract the attention of some of our practical farmers. Although my occupation is not to wield the axe or hold the plough, but the feathered goose-quill my favorite, yet I hold it a duty we owe one another to publish and inform all that lays in our power, of any new improvement either in Agriculture, Horticulture, or the Mechanic arts; for this object, I have made the folowing remarks, which I shall class under different heads.

I. PREPARATION OF THE LAND.

The potatoe land of last year, which has been well manured, and borne but one crop of potatoes, being most likely to produce a prime crop of Flax, a portion should be set apart for that purpose, and ploughed as early in the spring as possible, if it can be done late in the fall the better; previous to sowing, the land must be made very fine, by a second ploughing and harrowing; all lumps must be broken, stones picked off, and all the weeds taken off.

II. CHOICE OF THE SEED.

This should be of a bright color, plump, and which when bruised appears of a light or yellowish color, oily and fresh in the heart, and such as is sweet, both to the taste and smell, may be depended on as good.

III. SOWING.

The seed should be sown with an even and careful hand; any time from the first of April to the first of May, perhaps the 15th to 20th, is not too late in ordinary seasons for this country. (If clover or grass-seed is to be sown, it should be done at the same time, the grass sower following the flax sower.) The seed to be sown broad cast and covered lightly with the harrow. The land is then to be water furrowed, by running the plough up or down at the distance of every six feet.

IV. WEEDING.

This process should never be omitted. When the flax is well up above the ground, say four or five inches, it should be carefully wed by women and children, who may stand or sit on the bed, and by all means have the weeds carried clear off the ground. The crop is at this period to be rolled, (if practicable;) the flax will be much improved by this process, and experience has shown that flax grows much faster after being wed than it does before.

V. PULLING.

The flax is fit to pull when there is a light yellow tinge throughout. If not pulled in time, the flax will be coarse. Previous to pulling, bands of rushes should be gathered, dried, and well beat, for binding the flax with. Any flax which grows short and branching, should be left to ripen more in order to perfect its seed it being fit for little else. The pullers should catch the flax about the middle, and when they have their hands full, to pull up, and to the standing crop; when bound, it should be left for two days in this state to dry. If very fine flax is wanted, it should be pulled at an earlier stage; and if there is a material difference in the fineness of parts of the crop, the different qualities should be kept separate.

VI. RIPPLING.

Where it is intended to save the seed, and not to look for a crop of good flax, the seed should be taken out, by taking a handfull of the flax, and drawing it through a ripple; an instrument like a rake, or a single row of a hackle, but wider than the latter. The seed should be well dried in the sun, then thrashed, sieved and winnowed; and put in a dry place for the next year.

VII. BAGGING AND WATERING.

Let the flax be bound into small sheaves with the rush bands, the root end put downwards in the water, and covered with ferns or light brush. The water should be stagnant; bog water when to be had is to be preferred. The softer the water, the speedier the operation, and the deeper the water the better. The flax is generally sufficiently bogged in fifteen days. It is fit to take out, if the stalk when broke in the hand, parts freely from the flax. It should be examined every day after ten days, as some waters act more speedily than others; the same water will not do again. When sufficiently watered, the flax should be taken out and gently rinsed: it should be very carefully and gently handled.

VIII. GRASSING.

The flax should be taken to a clean lay field, or to a meadow cleared of hay; the rush bands collected, and put to dry for next year, and the flax spread out very thin. It should be examined every day after it has been ten days out, tried as before—and when the flax comes off freely from the stem, which is then brittle, it is grassed sufficiently. It is then to be tied up in sheaves and should be left out for a few days to dry; when it may be either stacked or housed; if stacked, it should be thatched to the ground, having first put a dry bottom under it.

IX. DRYING.

The flax should be well dried in the sun on a warm day; and scutch it as soon afterwards as possible. Stoving is found prejudicial to the staple, and if resorted to, is to be used with the greatest caution, it being found to make the flax very brittle, dries up the substance, and makes the bleaching more difficult, and yields much less at the hackle.

LASTLY, TRY THE EXPERIMENT.

I have this object in view in publishing the above, to state the process as pursued, and found by experience to be best, by the flax growers of Ireland, from whence we derive such fine linen fabrics, and I hope some of our practical farmers will at least make use of any of the above suggestions, and publish their remarks. We have every description of soil and climate, but we are far behind in the improvement of such a domestic production as the flax, although Ireland is yearly indebted to this country for its seed. HIBERNIA.

Rochester, 8th May, 1833.

The Turnep Fly in Hot-Beds.

On several occasions, the turnep fly has got into my hot-beds to the no small damage of my early cabbages and radishes. Their ascent appears to have been effected by a temporary covering which I threw over the sash to supply the place of some broken panes, one end of which nearly touched the ground. When these intruders have once possession, it is no easy matter to eject them. Air-slacked lime may be employed to some advantage; but I prefer the following method, though it requires a little patience: Pour a teaspoonful of melasses into a saucer, and procure a twig about eight inches long, or a stripped quill cut square near the upper end. Dip this end into the melasses, and touch the little marauders—three or four may be taken in succession, and then disposed of between the thumb and finger. The operator *may* soon discover that it is best to approach them *in front*, when they are almost sure to jump against the melasses and stick fast.

A PRACTICAL GARDENER.

USE OF PLASTER.

MESSRS. EDITORS—In a late number of the Genesee Farmer (page 140,) I saw a communication over the signature of "Plough Jogger," condemning the use of plaster,—this "*stimulating, this intoxicating Plaster of Paris,*"—on land. I disagree with him, as I think any man of reason and reflection, who reads his communication, will. And as my experience has not been sufficiently extensive to enable me to elucidate the subject by experiment, I can do no more than reason against his arguments.

He draws a comparison between plaster applied to land, and ardent spirits taken into the stomach of a laboring man. Now any reflecting mind will instantly perceive that there is no relation existing between them. Ardent spirits taken into the stomach, excite the feelings and increase the power of action for a very short time, and then leave the body more weak and feeble than it was before the spirits were taken. He contends that this is the effect of plaster applied to land—that it stimulates it and increases its power of action—its power of producing vegetables, for a few years, and then leaves it as ardent spirits leave the body of a laboring man. Now the question arises: Is the land stimulated by the use of plaster? or the plants which are to derive their nourishment from the land? I contend that the latter is the case—that by the use of plaster, plants are stimulated into action, and their power of collecting food from the soil, increased; but not as the laboring man is stimulated and his powers increased by the use of ardent spirits: viz. for a short time and then left dead in one sense of the word. We know that is not the effect of plaster applied to plants. We know that one application of plaster to a young plant, will stimulate it and increase its power of action till it arrives at maturity. We know that a plant, that has had one application of plaster, if not retarded by any local cause, will be much larger at harvest than one that has had no plaster applied to it. If this were the effect of ardent spirits, taken into the stomach of a laboring man,—if one *drink of grog* would stimulate him and increase his powers all his life—would it not be beneficial? Would he not be able to perform more labor? This is the effect of plaster applied to plants—by its use they are capable of doing more work—of appropriating more of the nutritive matter of the soil to their own use, (and the quantity of vegetable matter produced is in proportion to the quantity of food consumed by the plants) hence this matter is more speedily consumed or converted into vegetables, and consequently the land sooner exhausted or worn out, if no return of manure be made.

Let us make a supposition. Let us suppose a person to have a job of work, to do which he employs a laborer. Let us also suppose ardent spirits to have the same effect upon the laborer,

that plaster has upon plants: viz. of increasing the powers of action, the ability of performing labor, in a certain proportion, which we will suppose to be a two fold one—now by supplying the laborer with ardent spirits, the labor will be done in one half the time that it otherwise would, and consequently one half the wages saved which he would otherwise have paid him. This is the case with regard to plants—by the use of plaster they are enabled to perform more labor—to consume the nutricious matter of the soil, more expeditiously than they otherwise would. Therefore, to produce a certain quantity of vegetable matter, much labor may be saved by the use of plaster.

Let us suppose a piece of ground to contain a certain quantity of matter which may be converted into vegetables. (When this is consumed, either with or without the help of plaster, if no return of manure be made, we know the land will be exhausted.) Suppose a quantity sufficient to produce one hundred bushels of wheat, and without the use of plaster the plants will consume only $\frac{1}{10}$ of that matter each year until the whole is consumed—thus producing only ten bushels per year, but producing that quantity for ten years; whereas by the use of plaster to stimulate the plants into action—to increase their power of performing their duties, they will consume this matter with double the rapidity that they otherwise would, consuming one fifth of the whole quantity each year, and producing twenty bushels per year for five years. Hence, by the use of plaster, we get the one hundred bushels in just one half the time and with one half the labor that we would, were the plaster not used.

I recommend the use of plaster in any form whatever—in large or small quantities, (but more particularly in pretty liberal quantities.) I recommend the use of it because it is beneficial to the land with the farmer's assistance,—the plaster by converting into vegetable matter that which would otherwise lie dormant or be evaporating,—the farmer, by returning the more gross parts of that vegetable matter to the soil whence it came, there to decompose, to furnish food for the new plants,—and the plaster again, by stimulating and strengthning them to enable them to consume that food—thus in succession these two applications co-operating upon each other—one furnishing food for the plants, and the other enabling them to consume it, large crops may be raised, and the land not only not exhausted, but improved.

In conclusion, I lay it down as a fact, that plaster is beneficial to any land, to which it is applied—(I admit that it takes sometime to recruit land that is once exhausted,)—that larger crops can be raised for any number of years, and in any ground whatever, with plaster than without it. Perhaps some have been led into error on this subject, by the great delusion held out by the prospect of some old exhausted field, to which plaster had been applied, because it did not continue to present to them enormous crops, without any return—in short, because the plaster did not produce large crops out of nothing, and without the assistance of the farmer. And if "Plough Jogger" had paid particular attention to the effects of plaster—in a word, if he had assisted his plaster, as recommended above, he would have seen the beneficial effects of it—would have said nothing against it—and consequently, would have saved the necessity of this communication from his friend PLOUGH BOY.

Genesco, Livingston co., May 6th, 1833.

THE HORSE.

THE GLANDERS—NO. II.

In the 2d vol. Genesee Farmer page 183, is an article headed "*Cure* for Glanders." It is said, that there is no disease, but what has its antidote; and while I would not expressly deny this assertion, I would remind my readers, that there are many diseases which are but *rarely cured*. I would therefore especially caution farmers, to beware how they confide in any remedy which pretends to *cure the glanders*; for I verily believe that in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, it is an *incurable disease*. Whenever then, you are satisfied that your horse has the *glanders*, waste no expense upon his cure or keep, but either destroy him immediately, or place him in some situation, where he can be used as long as his strength continues, without endangering the health of other animals. It is a public nuisance, as well as an outrage upon your neighbor's property, to drive a horse upon public highways or into public stables, which you know is thus diseased; or even to permit him to leave your own premises. No *honest* man would thus endanger the property of others, nor would he *dispose* of or *sell* a glandered animal any sooner than he would attempt to pass a counterfeit bank-note.

"Glanders may be either bred in the horse, or communicated by contagion. What we have further to remark on this malady, will be arranged under these two heads.

"Improper stable management we believe to be a far more frequent cause of glanders than contagion. The air which is necessary to respiration is changed and empoisoned in its passage through the lungs, and a fresh supply is necessary for the support of life. That supply may be sufficient, barely to support life, but not to prevent the vitiated air from again and again passing to the lungs, and producing irritation and disease. The membrane of the nose, possessed of extreme sensibility for the purpose of smell, is easily irritated by this poison, and close and ill ventilated stables oftenest witness the ravages of glanders. Professor Coleman relates a case, which proves to demonstration the rapid and fatal agency of this cause. "In the expedition to Quiberon, the horses had not been long on board the transports, before it became necessary to shut down the hatchways, (we believe for a few hours only;) the consequence of this was, that some of them were suffocated, and that all the rest were disembarked either glandered or farcied."

"In a close stable, the air is not only poisoned by being repeatedly breathed, but there are other and more powerful sources of mischief. The dung and the urine are suffered to remain fermenting, and giving out injurious gases. In many dark and ill-managed stables, a portion of the dung may be swept away, but the urine lies for days at the bottom of the bed, the disgusting and putrifying nature of which is all concealed by a little fresh straw which the lazy horse keeper scatters over the top.

"The stables of the gentleman are generally kept hot enough, and far too hot, although in many of them, a more rational mode of treatment is beginning to be adopted; but they are lofty and roomy, and the horses are not too much crowded together, and a most scrupulous regard is paid to cleanliness. Glanders seldom prevail there. The stables of the farmer are ill-managed and filthy enough, and the ordure and urine sometimes remain from week to week, until the horse lies on a perfect dunghill, while there is no declivity to drain away the moisture, nor any regular pavement to prevent it from soaking into the earth, nor any water to clean even the surface, but the only instrument of purification is an old stumped broom. Glanders seldom prevail there; for the same carelessness which permits the filth to accumulate, leaves many a cranny for the wind to enter, and sweep away the deleterious fumes from this badly roofed and unceiled place.

"The stables of the horse dealer are hot enough; but a principle of strict cleanliness is enforced, for there must be nothing to offend the eye, or the nose of the customer; and there glanders are seldom found; but if the stables of many of our post-horses, and of those employed on our canals, be examined, almost too low for a tall horse to stand upright—too dark for the accumulation of filth to be perceived,—too far from the eye of the master,—ill-drained and ill-paved,—and governed by a false principle of economy, which begrudges the labor of the man and the cleanliness and comfort of the animal; these will be the very hotbeds of the disease, and in many of these establishments it is an almost constant resident.

"When speaking of inflammation of the eye, and the effect of ill-ventilated stables in producing it, we remarked that the urine of the horse contained an unusually large quantity of hartshorn; that the litter wetted by it was disposed most rapidly to ferment, and that the gases extricated must be extremely prejudicial to so delicate an organ. It may then be easily imagined that the constant presence of those pungent fumes, and the irritation which they would cause on that membrane which is the very seat of smell, must predispose for, and often generate a disease which is primarily an affection of this membrane.

"Glanders may be produced by any thing that injures, or for a length of time acts upon, and weakens the vital energy of this membrane. They have been known to follow a fracture of the bones of the nose. They have been the consequence of violent catarrh, and particularly the long continued discharge from the nostrils, of which we have spoken. They have been produced by the injection of stimulating and acrid substances up the nostrils; and every thing which weakens the constitution generally, will lead to glanders. It is not only from bad stable management, but from the hardships which they endure, and the exhausted state of their constitutions, that post and machine horses are so subject to glanders: and there is scarcely an inflammatory disease to which the horse is subject, that is not occasionally wound up and terminated by the appearance of glanders.

"Glanders however, are highly contagious. The farmer cannot be too well aware of this; and considering the degree to which they often prevail, the legislature would be justified in interfering by some severe enactments, as they have done in the case of the small-pox in the human subject.

The early and marked symptom of glanders is a discharge from the nostril of a peculiar character; and if that even before it becomes prevalent, be rubbed on a wound, or on a mucus surface, as the nostrils, it will produce a similar disease. Glanders are not communicated by the air or breath. If the division between two horses were sufficiently high to prevent all smelling and snorting at each other and contact of every kind, and they drunk not out of the same pail, a sound horse might live for years uninfected, by the side of a glandered one. The matter of glanders has been mixed up into a ball, and given to a healthy horse, without effect; yet in another experiment of the same kind, the poor animal died. The mouth or gullet had probably some small wounds or ulcers in it. Some horses have eaten the hay left by those that were glandered, and no bad consequences have followed; but others have been speedily infected. The glanderous matter must come in contact with a wound, or fall on some membrane, thin and delicate like that of the nose, and through which it may be absorbed. It is easy then, accustomed as horses are to smell each other and to recognize each other by the smell; eating out of the same manger, and drinking from the same pail, to imagine that the disease may be very readily communicated. One horse has passed another when he was in the act of snorting, and has become glandered. Some fillies have received the infection, from the matter blown by the wind across a lane, when a glandered horse, in the opposite field, has claimed acquaintance by neighing or snorting. It is almost impossible for an infec-

ted horse to remain long in a stable with others, without irreparable mischief.

"If some persons underrate the danger, it is because the disease may remain unrecognized in the infected horse for some months, or even years; and therefore when it appears, it is attributed to other causes, or to after inoculation. We would deeply impress it on the mind of the farmer, that no glandered horse should be employed on his farm in any kind of work, or permitted to remain for a day on his premises: nor should a glandered horse be permitted to work on any road, or even to pasture on any field. He may be capable of work for years after the disease has become undoubted, but mischief may so easily and extensively be effected, that the public interest demands that every infected animal should be summarily destroyed, or given over for experiment to a veterinary surgeon, or recognized veterinary establishment.

"Our opinion of the treatment of glanders is implied in what we have just stated. There are a few instances of the spontaneous cure of chronic glanders, or glanders long established and slow in their progress. The discharge has existed for a considerable time; at length it has gradually diminished, and has ceased without medical treatment: but in the majority of these supposed cases, the matter was only pent up for awhile, and then, bursting from its confinement, flowed again in double quantity: or if glanders have not re-appeared, the horse, in eighteen or twenty-four months, has become farcied, or consumptive, and died. We view these cures with much suspicion: but even allowing that some have occurred, they are so few and far between, that our expressed opinion of the incurable nature of the disease, in the present state of veterinary knowledge, is scarcely affected. As for medicine, there is scarcely a drug to which a fair trial has not been given, and many of them have had a temporary reputation; but they have passed away, one after the other, and are no longer used. The blue vitriol and the Spanish-fly have held out longest, and in a few cases, either nature, or these medicines, have done wonders; but, in the majority of instances, they have palpably failed. Where the life of a valuable animal is at stake, and the owner takes every precaution to prevent infection, he may subject the horse to medical treatment; but we indignantly object to the slitting of the nostril, and scraping of the cartilage, and searing of the gland, and firing the frontal and nasal bones, and to those injections of pepper and mustard, corrosive sublimate and vitriol, by which the horse has been tortured, and the practitioner disgraced. At the veterinary school, and by veterinary surgeons, it will be most desirable that every experiment should be tried to discover a remedy for this pest; but, in ordinary instances, he is not faithful to his own interest or that of his neighbors, who does not remove the possibility of danger in the most summary way.

"Supposing that glanders have made their appearance in the stables of a farmer, is there any danger after he has removed or destroyed the infected horse?—certainly there is, but not to the extent that is commonly supposed. There is no necessity for pulling down the racks and mangers, or even the stable itself, as some have done. The poison resides not in the breath of the animal, but in the nasal discharge, and that can only reach certain parts of the stable; and if the mangers, and racks, and bales, and partitions, are first well scraped, and next scoured with soap and water, and then thoroughly washed with a solution of the chloride of lime, (one pint of the chloride to a pailful of water,) and the walls are lime-washed, and the head-gear burned, and the clothing baked and washed, and the pails new painted, and the iron-work exposed to a red heat, all danger will cease.

"The tricks which some dealers resort to at fairs and markets, in order to conceal the existence of glanders, are most infamous, and should be visited with the severest penalty of the law. Having given the horse a brushing gallop, that he may thoroughly clear the nose, some of them blow powdered allum up the nostrils a little while before he is shown; others use white vitriol; and although the horse may be sadly tortured, about which they care nothing, the discharge is for some hours stayed. Others roll up a pledget of tow, and introduce it into the nostril, sufficiently high to escape common observation. Both these tricks may be discovered by the uneasiness of the animal, and his repeated efforts to sneeze, as well as by his general appearance, and if the disease be far advanced, most assuredly by the red or raw appearance of the nose, and by the stinking breath.

"Happy should we be, if we could say any thing satisfactory of the *prevention* of glanders. The danger from exposure to infection can scarcely be avoided by those who travel much, and whose horses must stand in stables the inmates of which are so promiscuous, and so frequently changed. Although we cannot prevent contagion, we have more power in preventing the disease from occurring without contagion, and that is a point of importance, at least if the opinion of Professor Coleman be correct, that not one horse in a thousand receives the disease from contagion. To this, however, we cannot subscribe, for not only the history of cavalry regiments, but the experience of every breeder and proprietor of horses will prove the infectious nature of the complaint.

"No fact is more certain, than that he who will keep a glandered horse in his stable, or work him in his team, will sooner or later lose the greater part of his stud. However, the generation of the disease may certainly be much prevented, and the first and most effectual mode of prevention will be to keep the stables cool and well ventilated, for the hot and poisoned air of low and confined stables is one of the most prevalent causes of glanders.

"Next to ventilation stands cleanliness; for the foul air from the fermenting litter, and urine and dung, must not only be highly injurious to health generally, but irritate and predispose to inflammation that delicate membrane, which is the primary seat of the disease. If to this be added regular exercise, and occasional green meat during the summer, and carrots in the winter, we shall have stated all that can be done in the way of prevention. The farmer's horse in his cool or cold stable, and during the greater part of the year running loose when not at work, would be exempt from glanders, if, at the market and fair, he were not so much exposed to contagion. In truth, glanders may be considered as the consequence of the stabling of the horse. In South America and in Arabia they are unknown; but wherever the European plan of stabling has been introduced, glanders have followed in its train: and therefore if any means are resorted to for the cure of glanders, the first, and perhaps the only effectual one would be to remove every exciting cause of the disease; to restore the horse almost to a state of nature; to turn him out for a long time, or at least to throw open his stables as much as the season and the weather will permit. Experience, however, tells us, that, although the symptoms have disappeared when the exciting causes of disease have been removed, and the horse has returned to his stable after a twelvemonth's run apparently sound, every symptom has gradually shewn itself again when these causes have been once more called into action."

SOWING PLASTER.

Mr. Tucker:—A day or two since I fell upon a method of sowing gypsum, which I deem worth communicating to the public through your columns. I had procured from the mill a box of plaster, in a one horse wagon, which I sent to my field by a boy, following myself to give instructions about spreading it. He filled a common sized pail, and lifting it upon his arm, commenced his labor. Having some reminiscences upon the subject, of, perhaps, six or eight years duration, I instantly perceived that the task was to prove a heavy one. I directed him to take his place in the waggon, and whilst he drove the horse slowly across the lot I spread the plaster from the box behind. The expedient succeeded fully to my satisfaction. I thus went on, and having sowed five and a half bushels of plaster over four acres of meadow, I looked at my watch and found that we had been in the lot just an hour. I performed the work *well*—having applied the dressing as uniformly and equally, as it could be possibly done on foot. In fact I sowed the ground twice over, extending the cast each time, to the tract of the wheels last made, by which my driver guided his course across the lot. A moderate east wind blew during our labor, and we sowed north and south. I commenced also on the windward side of the field. I should recommend a windy day for this purpose, and perhaps a yoke of cattle would be preferable to a horse.

It will be readily perceived that while my mode of sowing plaster, makes a great saving of manual strength, the great advantage derived is in the expedition with which the process is performed. One man and boy, in a one horse cart, can dress from forty to sixty acres per day, thus making a very important saving of time, at a season when the farmer is obliged to husband it closely. The injury of driving a waggon over a field of grain would be but little, and could not be considered a moment when compared with the value of the time gained. Let any farmer try it, and I am satisfied that he will never sow plaster from a pail on foot again.

I would add here, that in sowing from a wagon it will be found necessary to stop occasionally, to pick up, or loosen the plaster, which becomes compacted by its motion. The elevated position of the sower enables him to make a very broad cast, and if advantage is taken of the wind, he will be able to avoid the respiration of any great quantities of dust. V. W. S.

Syracuse, April 29, 1833.

HIGHWAYS--No. IV.

The law requires that the loose stones shall be cleaned off from the beaten track of the highway *once every month* from the first of April till the first of December; and it is the duty of the overseers or path-masters to see that it is faithfully performed. This is an admirable regulation. No improvement can be made on our roads at so trifling an expense that does so much good, as every driver of a wagon or carriage must know if he has reflected on the subject, and been so fortunate as to enter a road district where this provision of the law is respected. It is a lamentable fact however, that in most cases it is considered a *dead letter*. The aversion of our *patriotic* yeomanry to the fulfilment of this civic duty, is astonishing; and in no case that has come to my knowledge, have the Commissioners of Highways been successful in forcing a compliance with the requisitions of the law throughout one whole town.

It is evident that these officers have believed that public opinion would not warrant a prosecution of the delinquents; and that such rigor would be unpopular. So we are left to be jolted, our carriages injured, and our horses jerked about and strained, in order that men may be indulged who are not much farther advanced than he that carries the stone in the other end of the bag.

There is another way in which travelers are compelled to endure the same evils, not arising from carelessness, but sheer want of judgment—a downright perversion of intellect. This is the filling of deep ruts with large stones. The wheels may not sink in so far; but like a medicine which

saves a patient and destroys his constitution, that part of the road can never again be pleasantly traveled, except in deep snows; and such a nuisance ought to be presented by the grand jury.

VIATOR.

LEISURE MOMENTS--No. XIII.

QUADRUPEDS.

One of the greatest obstacles to a young beginner in the study of Natural History according to the old plan, is a long list of unintelligible names and terms. The word quadruped is derived from two Latin words and signifies four footed, consequently every animal having four feet is to be referred to this class, which 'admits of a division into two tribes. 1. Those whose extremities are divided into fingers or toes, scientifically called Unguiculata, from the Latin word for nail.' Hence all quadrupeds having fingers or toes belong to the Unguiculata or nail tribe. '2. Those whose extremities are hoofed, scientifically called Ungulata, from the Latin word for hoof.' All quadrupeds then having hoofs belong to the Ungulata or hoofed tribe. '1. The extremities of the first tribe are armed with claws or nails, which give them a capacity of grasping objects, of climbing, of burrowing. Some have extremities formed for grasping, having the faculty of opposing a thumb to the other fingers, which faculty resides in, or is communicated by, that portion of animal structure which is properly called a hand. Man possesses this faculty in the highest perfection; but Monkeys and Bats are distinguished by having all their extremities capable of this power; and they are thus called Quadrumana or four handed,---the word being derived from the two Latin words quadra and manus. The Quadrumana, and the Carnivora (from caro and voro, eaters of flesh) have molar or grinding-teeth, canine or dog-teeth, and cutting-teeth. Some of these carnivorous animals, as well as other orders of the fingured quadrupeds, walk on the soles of the feet, as bears, and are called Plantigrada; some on the extremities of the feet, as cats, and are called Digitigrada; and some are web-footed, as seals, and are called Palmata.

Among the Unguiculata, or fingered quadrupeds, there are very few which are used by man as food. Many of them are noxious or ferocious. The Dog and the Cat are the only species of the Carnivorous orders which have been rendered domestic. 2. The extremities of the Ungulata (hoofed tribe) are exclusively employed to support and move the body. They are all Herbivorous (from huba and voro, eating herbs) and feed on vegetables. Their teeth are fitted for the mastication of grain or roots, by having a flattish round upper surface; and their jaws possess the capacity of moving in the same plane. Their teeth are also of unequal hardness, so that they have the power of crushing, like the unequal surfaces of a millstone. Among this tribe, man, whether in a rude or civilized state, principally and almost exclusively finds his food, from wild or from domesticated animals.

INQUIRY.

I wish to inquire through the medium of the Genesee Farmer, if any one of its readers can inform me how to destroy the green bug or fly that infests fruit trees. They are very plenty in this neighborhood—so much so that they have killed many of my young grafts as well as some young trees. I have tried boring them and putting in sulphur, but it does not seem to have any effect. I am fearful that if they cannot be destroyed, they will increase so as to destroy all my young fruit trees.

E. WILBUR.

Jerusalem, 5th mo. 14, 1833.

As there are few operations of Gardening at present which require particular attention, that have not been hitherto explained, I most cheerfully wave any observations of my own to give place to the following important observations from that distinguished Horticulturist, THOS. ANDREW KNIGHT, Esq., President of the *London Horticultural Society.* The ideas there expressed I consider deserving the attention of every individual who may cultivate a fruit tree.

Very respectfully, ALEX. GORDON.

Rochester Nursery, Main st., May 13, 1833.

[From the London Gard. Mag. for Feb. 1833.]

On the Means of prolonging the Duration of valuable Varieties of Fruits. By Thomas A. Knight, Esq. F. R. S, President. Read May 3, 1831.

Mr. Knight believes that all the constitutional properties of every variety of fruit are contemporaneously inherent in all the plants which can be made from the buds of that variety, if taken as they usually are from the branches, be the mode of multiplying the buds of these branches into plants what it may. No trees of any variety "can be made to produce blossoms or fruit, till the original tree of that variety has attained its age of puberty; and under our ordinary modes of propagation by grafts and buds, all [the individual plants of any given variety, as we understand it] become subject, within no very distant period, to the debilities and diseases of old age. It is therefore desirable that the planter should know at what periods of their existence varieties of fruits are most productive and eligible; and by what means (if any exist) the deterioration of valuable varieties may be prevented or retarded." Mr. Knight has been accustomed to consider "that each variety possessed its greatest value in its middle age," but now believes "that, in vegetable as in animal life, the most prolific period is that which immediately succeeds the age of puberty." Out of a good many experiments which led Mr. Knight to this conclusion were these:—From seedling pear trees twenty years of age, and which had borne their first fruit in the preceding autumn, he, in July 1828, took from the extremity of their leading branches buds, and inserted them into seedling pear stocks, then only four months old. Many of these budded plants, although not transplanted, nor subjected to any peculiar mode of treatment, produced blossoms abundantly vigorous in the spring of 1831, and consequently at but three years from the date of their springing from the ground. Mr Knight remarks:—"I never previously saw, and I do not think that any other person has seen, in this climate, fruit produced by pear trees at so early an age. I had previously made the same experiment with apple trees, with the same results." Mr. Knight laid some branches of a plum tree, which had not attained the age of puberty, which (as he expected) freely emitted roots; but he found, contrary to his expectation, that the young shoots which these layers had produced afforded, in the following spring, much blossom. The variety of plum experimented on, Mr. Knight believes to be one exceedingly productive of blossoms: "but," he adds, "I doubt much if such blossoms would have appeared, if the variety had been a century old." Thus, while Mr Knight hence infers that grafts or seeds taken from the bearing branches of very young seedling trees afford trees capable of bearing freely at a very early age, and, in consequence of their youthfulness, likely to continue to grow with health and vigor; yet he readily admits that this information will not subserve the object of prolonging the duration of existing varieties of fruits, if every part of seedling trees is in the same degree affected by age. This, however, Mr. Knight states, is not the case; for "the decay of the powers of life in the roots of seedling trees is exceedingly slow, comparatively with [the decay of the powers of life in] the bearing branches. Scions [shoots] obtained from the roots of pear trees of 200 years old afford grafts which grow with great vigor, and which, in many cases, are covered with thorns, like young seedling stocks; whilst other grafts, taken at the same time from the extremities of the branches of such trees, present a totally different character, and a very slow and unhealthy growth. I do not, however, conceive that any scion [shoots] which thus springs from the root of an old tree possesses all the powers of a young seedling tree; but it certainly possesses no inconsiderable portion of such powers; and I have proved such scions to be capable of affording healthy trees of a considerable size.

"If grafts or buds were taken from such scions [shoots,] on their first emission [from the roots], much time would elapse before any blossom would be produced; but, if buds were not taken from such scions [shoots] till the branches attained the age of puberty, no loss of time whatever would subsequently occur.

"The branches of the plum tree, in the experiment above mentioned, emitted roots just at the period when they had attained the age of puberty; and I do not doubt but that scions [shoots] from the roots of these will spring from the soil, in full possession of all the powers attached to the branches from which they derived their existence. My own experience leads me to think that trees of the pear, the apple, and the plum may be better raised by layers and cuttings of the roots, than by the methods usually practiced, and at less expense."

Mr. Knight remarks, in conclusion, that the permanent preservation of valuable and new varieties of fruits, of which the Society's garden contains many, in their pristine and present state of health and vigor, appears to be an object of great importance; as does the retardation of the decay of many varieties, "such as the Cornish Gilliflower apple, which, in my estimation is and always was without a rival in the climate of England."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We had intended to publish the communication of *Hickory* in this number; but on perusing it more carefully we do not see that his plan differs in any point from that to which he refers. If H. will again peruse the Report of the Committee of the N. Y. State Agricultural Society, we think he will be convinced that the proposed plan combines all the requisites to which he has alluded in his communication.

Col. HODGES' reply to *Plough Jogger* was not received until after the communication of *A Plough Boy*, in the present number, was in type; and is consequently deferred till next week. The communications of E. WILBUR and AGRICOLA, on the same subject, shall also have a place soon.

THE Subscriber has just received a large quantity of *Mangold Wurtzel* or *Field Beet, and Ruta Baga Turnep Seed*, shipped in London on the 14th of March last, to which he would beg the attention of Farmers in general, as both those roots have been proved by various farmers in the Genesee country, and have been found to answer every expectation, being decidedly the best succulent food for cattle in winter.

☞To counteract false reports which have been circulated by those interested in injuring the Rocheste Nursery, the subscriber deems it just to himself and to those who have patronized him, distinctly to state, that every *Tree* or *Shrub* brought to the Rochester Nursery was grown either on the respectable establishments of Messrs. Buel & Wilson at the Albany Nursery, or at that of Messrs. James Boodgood & Co., at Flushing, Long Island, and the whole assortment of seeds were received in New-York in 1832, from Mr. George Charlwood in London, expressly for the subscriber. Orders addressed to the subscriber, will meet with every attention and be executed with care and despatch. ALEX. GORDON.

Rochester Nursery, May 15, 1833.

THE YELLOW VIOLET.

BY BRYANT.

The beechen buds begin to swell,
And woods the blue bird's warble know,
The yellow violet's modest bell
Peeps from the last year's leaves below.

Ere russet fields their green resume,
Sweet flower! I love, in forest bare,
To meet thee, when thy faint perfume
Alone is in the virgin air.

Of all her train, the hands of Spring
First plant thee in the watery mold;
And I have seen thee blossoming
Beside the snow bank's edges cold.

Thy parent Sun, who bade thee view
Pale skies, and chilling moisture sip,
Has bathed thee in his own bright hue,
And streak'd with jet thy glowing lip.

Yet slight thy form and low thy seat,
And earthward bent thy gentle eye,
Unapt the passing view to meet,
When loftier flowers are flaunting nigh.

Oft in the sunless April day,
Thy early smile has staid my walk;
But midst the gorgeous blooms of May
I pass'd thee on thy humble stalk.

So they, who climb to wealth, forget
The friends in darker fortunes tried;
I copied them—but I regret
That I should ape the ways of pride.

And when again the genial hour
Awakes the painted tribes of light,
I'll not o'erlook the modest flower,
That made the woods of April bright.

VALUABLE INVENTION.

Arnold Zillner, Esq. of Giles county, has invented and obtained a patent for a machine for breaking and cleaning hemp, which after repeated experiments has been found admirably to answer the purpose intended.—We have before us the certificate of twelve of the most respectable citizens of Bedford county, all hemp growers, who witnessed 2 experiments on a machine erected on the farm of Col. Samuel Mitchell, of that county. The first experiment resulted in the breaking and cleaning in a very superior manner of sixty-seven pounds of neat hemp, and twenty-two and a half pounds of tow that came out of it, in thirty-three minutes, with the assistance of six hands, exclusive of the drivers of the horses. On the second experiment, the result was twenty-eight and a half pounds of well broken and nicely cleaned hemp, and eight and a half pounds of tow that came out of it, in sixteen minutes, with the assistance of four hands, besides the driver of the horses. In both instances the machine was kept in operation by two mules and two horses, with two small boys for drivers; the horses did not go faster than a brisk walk.

The great advantage of the machine, in addition to the saving of the labor, appears to be, that is saves all the lint in the shape of hemp or tow, separating the tow from the hemp, and leaving the latter very smooth, straight and clean. We understand that with four good horses the machine will easily turn out fifteen hundred weight of clean hemp per day. Boys from twelve to fifteen years of age, or women, possess ample strength to attend it. The gentlemen who witnessed the experiments are all conversant with the culture of hemp, and they unite in recommending it as the most valuable machine within their knowledge for breaking and cleaning hemp. One of them who has been for the last six or seven years a manufacturer of hemp into bagging and rope, considers the hemp broken and cleaned in this machine superior to that broken in any other way, as it will make less tow in hackling, and the tow that it separated from the hemp in the process will answer very well for making bailing rope.—*Nashville Republican.*

SAGACITY OF A HORSE.

An incident occurred in one of our streets this forenoon, well calculated to excite admiration for that noblest of animals, the horse. A fine, large, dark bay, that is seen daily in our streets attached to Mr. John Taylor's Beer Dray, was standing, this morning, in front of Mr. Usher's grocery, in Division street. A load of hay coming up Division, was obstructed by the dray. As the wagon came up to the dray, the man upon his load of hay said, "*get out of the way!*" The dray-horse looked round, and seeing that he blocked up the street, moved round the corner of Division into Greene street, and, after the wagon had passed, *backed his dray round into Division street and resumed the exact position which he left to enable the wagon to pass!* The drayman was not present, no person touched a rein, nor was a word spoken to the horse, except by the wagoner, who ordered him to "*get out of the way!*"—*Albany Evening Journal.*

Patent Pin Making Machine.

Sometime since, one of the editors of this paper was invited to inspect a machine for making pins, by means of a crank, to which any power might be applied, and which would require no other labor, the process being simply to pass the wire into the machine, which cut it a proper length, headed and pointed it, and delivered it a complete pin. The machine then examined was the model made for trying the experiment, and an account of its construction was published in the "Advocate and Journal." We have now the pleasure to state that the patentee, Dr. J. J. Howe, has caused another similar machine to be made at the manufactory of Messrs. Hoe & Co. of this city, and has proved, beyond all doubt, the success of his plan. Forty or fifty pins are produced in a minute, and they are considered to be better than those made by the old mode, which required that ten or twelve different manipulatory processes should be gone through before a single pin could be finished.

The ingenious inventor goes out to England in the packet ship Montreal, taking this machine with him, intending to patent it, both there and in France.—*Merc. Adv.*

ANGORA GOAT.

Mr. J. S. Skinner, late editor of the American Farmer, has received from Commodore Porter, Charge de Affairs at Constantinople, a communication accompanied with the skin of an Angora Goat, from whose silken hair cashmere shawls are manufactured. Com. Porter strongly recommends the introduction of the Angora Goat into this country, and says—The value of a cashmere shawl here (Constantinople) is from three to four and often five hundred dollars. The best of the French silk imitations may be purchased for thirty dollars. The cost of the introduction of this animal into the U. S. would not be much for two or three public spirited men of fortune to undertake; it would be nothing, compared to the expense they were at, in introducing the rotten, mangy, short-lived Merino. The goat is a hardy amimal long-lived, and subjected to none of the disease of the sheep.—*Phil. Gaz.*

FRESH GARDEN SEEDS.

THE advertisers, SMITH & HOGG, in announcing the completion of their Spring Stock of Seeds, &c., take this opportunity of tendering their thanks to their numerous friends and the public, for the support they have always experienced from them. They feel assured from their personal superintendence, and careful attention to every minutia of their business, extensive and varied as it is, that they offer an assortment embracing in their line every thing of a sound and productive quality. Amongst which will be found the following articles: Winter & Spring Tares, Perennial Ray Grass, Meadow Fesure, Foxtail and Sweet Vernal Grasses, Sainfoin, Lucerne, Trefoil, White and Red Clover, and other Seeds both for Farming and Gardening.

S. & H. would remark that their stock of Seeds has been selected by their Agents in Scotland and England, with their usual care, and they feel a confidence in inviting their friends to a trial.

P. S—All orders will have their best and earliest attention if directed to SMITH & HOGG.

April, 1833. 388 *Broadway, N. Y.*

THE IMPORTED HORSE,

SIR ISAAC.

THIS celebrated Horse of the Cleaveland Bay breed, was sent to this country from England by Admiral Sir Isaac Coffin of the British Navy. Said horse was bred in Yorkshire, (England,) and selected under the Admiral's orders as superior of his breed, and cost when two years old one hundred Guineas—is a beautiful dapple bay, black mane, tail and legs, and stands sixteen hands, and is powerfully built—was sired by the famous horse Molineux.

This breed of horses is highly esteemed for gentlemen's carriages, and particularly for farming purposes. His colts are almost uniformly of a bay color, and is a sure foal getter.

He will stand at the stable of the subscriber in Perrinton, at five dollars the leap, and eight dollars to insure a foal. Good attention paid by,

GIDEON RAMSDELL.

Perrinton, April, 1833. m1 8

FRUIT TREES.

THE subscriber has on hand 152 sorts of the very choicest cultivated Apples, of particularly handsome growths, and 70 sorts of the most esteemed varieties of European and American Pears Also, an extensive assortment of Plums, Peaches, Cherries, &c. at the New-York prices.

☞ *CIONS* of the above extensive assortment of Fruit Trees may be had on application at the Rochester Nursery, on the most reasonable terms,

ALEXANDER GORDON

200,000 White Mulberry Trees.

THE Subscriber has on hand and for sale, 200,000 WHITE MULBERRY TREES, of two and three year's growth, which have been transplanted, are in a healthy and thrifty condition, and which he offers for sale at $1,50 to $2,00 per hundred, delivered at the nursery. Also, a few of the Morus Multicaulis, or Chinese White Mulberry. ASA BUTLER.

P. S. All orders, *Post paid* will be punctually attended to.

Suffield, Conn., April 1st, 1833. ap20 f3m

THE GENESEE FARMER,

AND GARDENER'S JOURNAL.

A weekly Agricultural Paper, published in Rochester, (N. Y.) by LUTHER TUCKER & Co.

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☞ The third volume was commenced, Jan. 5. 1833.

☞ The first and second volumes can be supplied to new subscribers.